



Department of Human Services

Public Comment Notice

The proposed Home and Community-Based Options and Person Centered Excellence (HOPE) Waiver operated by the Division of Long Term Services and Supports is available for public comment for 30 days from May 17th, 2021 to June 16th, 2021.

WHAT IS THE HOPE WAIVER?

The HOPE Waiver is due for renewal on July 1, 2021 with an anticipated effective date of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2026. The purpose of the HOPE Waiver is to provide home and community-based services to South Dakotans age 65 and older as well as individuals 18 years of age and older who have a qualifying disability, to allow them to remain at home or in the least restrictive environment available. Services are based on an assessed need and may include, but are not limited to, homemaker, personal care, in-home nursing, medical equipment and supplies, assisted living, structured family caregiving and emergency response systems.

WHO IS AFFECTED BY THE WAIVER RENEWAL?

South Dakotans age 65 and older as well as individuals 18 years of age and older who have a qualifying disability that are currently eligible or become eligible for the HOPE Waiver.

WHAT ARE THE PROPOSED CHANGES?

The changes that have been included in the Waiver Renewal include:

- The Administrative Authority performance measures have been updated.
- The language has been updated to ensure that Money Follows the Person providers are able to be reimbursed for transition services up to and including the transition date regardless of HOPE Waiver eligibility; given a preliminary Nursing Facility Level of Care for HOPE Waiver has been determined.
- Residential Respite has been added as a separate service.
- The fitness criteria list of automatic preclusions for caregivers and provider staff entering the homes of consumers has been updated.
- For consumers pursuing Structured Family Caregiving services, the fingerprint background check requirement has been removed for household members over the age of 18 who are not the primary caregiver.
- The Adult Protective Services and Critical Incidents sections of the Waiver have been updated to reflect the specialization of APS and enhance the Critical Incident protocol related to deaths.
- The protocol related to complaints received for HOPE Waiver participants residing in a provider owned and operated setting have been updated to align with complaints received against providers of HOPE Waiver participants residing in the home.
- The rate methodology for Structured Family Caregiving Services has been modified.

WHERE CAN I LOOK AT THE WAIVER RENEWAL?

The Waiver Renewal can be viewed online at <https://dss.sd.gov/keyresources/hearings> and <http://dhs.sd.gov/ltss/titlexix.aspx>. Printed copies may be requested by contacting the Division of Long Term Services & Supports at 605-773-3656.

HOW DO I MAKE A COMMENT?

1) E-MAIL:

hcbs@state.sd.us

2) MAIL:

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Department of Human Services
811 E. 10th St.
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3) PHONE:

LTSS: (605) 773-3656
SD MEDICAID: (605) 773-3495

4) PUBLIC HEARING:

June 2nd, 2021: 2:00-3:00 PM (CST)
• Dial In: 1-866-410-8397
• Conference Code: 5969258425